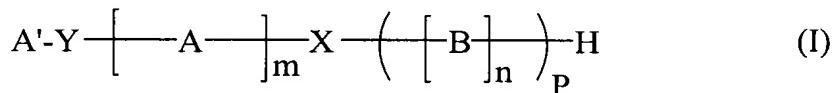


IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claims 1-17 (Canceled).

Claim 18 (Currently Amended): A mixture comprising a surfactant and a cosurfactant, wherein the cosurfactant is an amphiphilic polymer with the structure formula



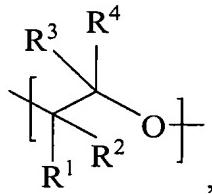
in which

A' is an unbranched or branched alkyl, cycloalkyl, aryl or aralkyl radical having 1 to 60 carbon atoms,

Y is S or O,

wherein A'-Y is a monofunctional unbranched or branched alcohol or thiol radical having 8 to 30 carbon atoms per molecule,

A is a structural unit with the formula

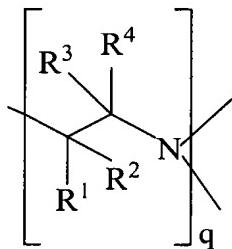


in which

R<sup>1</sup>, R<sup>2</sup>, R<sup>3</sup> and R<sup>4</sup> independently of one another, are the substituents hydrogen, methyl, ethyl, n-propyl, isopropyl, octyl or phenyl, with the restriction that at most three of the substituents R<sup>1</sup>, R<sup>2</sup>, R<sup>3</sup> and R<sup>4</sup> are hydrogen,

m is a number in the range from 10 to 300,

X is a structural unit with the formula



in which the substituents

$R^1$ ,  $R^2$ ,  $R^3$  and  $R^4$  independently of one another, are each hydrogen, methyl, ethyl, n-propyl, isopropyl, octyl or phenyl,

~~q = 0 or~~ q = 1,

B is a monomeric subunit based on ethylene oxide or a mixture of ethylene oxide and propylene oxide,

n is a number in the range from 20 to 500 and

p = q + 1.

Claim 19 (Cancelled).

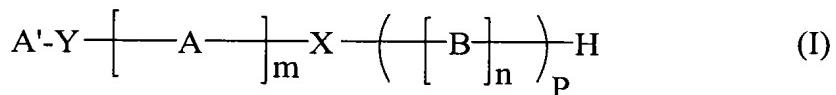
Claim 20 (Previously Presented): The mixture as claimed in claim 18, wherein the structural unit A is formed from one or more of the monomers selected from the group consisting of propene oxide, 1-butene oxide, 2,3-butene oxide, 2- methyl- 1 ,2-propene oxide (isobutene oxide), 1-pentene oxide, 2,3-pentene oxide, 2- methyl-1,2-butene oxide, 3-methyl-1,2-butene oxide, 2,3-hexene oxide, 3,4-hexene oxide, 2-methyl-1,2-pentene oxide, 2-ethyl-1,2-butene oxide, 3-methyl-1,2-pentene oxide, decene oxide, 4-methyl-1,2-pentene oxide, styrene oxide and a mixture of oxides of industrially available raffinate streams.

Claim 21 (Previously Presented): The mixture as claimed in claim 18, wherein the number m is a value in the range from 50 to 250.

Claim 22 (Previously Presented): The mixture as claimed in claim 18, wherein the number n is a value in the range between 50 and 300.

Claim 23 (Previously Presented): The mixture as claimed in claim 18, wherein B is an ethylene oxide/propylene oxide mixture containing 0 to 50% of propylene oxide.

Claim 24 (Currently Amended): A process for the preparation of an amphiphilic polymer with the structural formula (I)



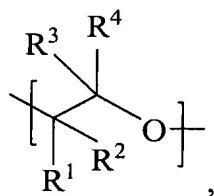
in which

A' is an unbranched or branched alkyl, cycloalkyl, aryl or aralkyl radical having 1 to 60 carbon atoms,

Y is S or O,

wherein A'-Y is a monofunctional unbranched or branched alcohol or thiol radical having 8 to 30 carbon atoms per molecule,

A is a structural unit with the formula

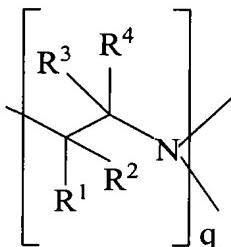


in which

$R^1$ ,  $R^2$ ,  $R^3$  and  $R^4$  independently of one another, are the substituents hydrogen, methyl, ethyl, n-propyl, isopropyl, octyl or phenyl, with the restriction that at most three of the substituents  $R^1$ ,  $R^2$ ,  $R^3$  and  $R^4$  are hydrogen,

$m$  is a number in the range from 10 to 300.

$X$  is a structural unit with the formula



in which the substituents

$R^1$ ,  $R^2$ ,  $R^3$  and  $R^4$  independently of one another, are each hydrogen, methyl, ethyl, n-propyl, isopropyl, octyl or phenyl,

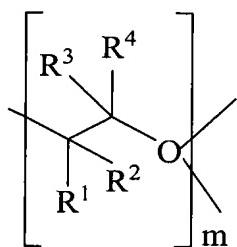
$q=0$  or  $q = 1$ ,

$B$  is a monomeric subunit based on ethylene oxide or a mixture of ethylene oxide and propylene oxide,

$n$  is a number in the range from 20 to 500 and

$p = q + 1$ ,

comprising reacting an unbranched or branched monohydroxyalkyl, -aryl or -aralkyl alcohol  $A'$ -OH or a corresponding thiol  $A'$ -SH with a monomer which forms the structural unit

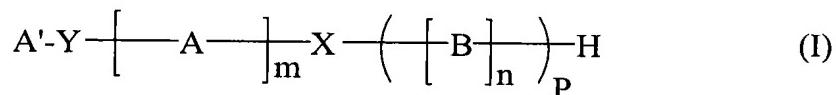


and reacting

- the terminal OH group directly with ethylene oxide or a mixture of ethylene oxide and propylene oxide or
- the terminal OH group firstly to give a primary or secondary amine and then with ethylene oxide or a mixture of ethylene oxide and propylene oxide.

Claim 25 (Previously Presented): A method for stabilizing an emulsion comprising adding the mixture as claimed in claim 18 to an emulsion.

Claim 26 (Currently Amended): A microemulsion comprising a surfactant and cosurfactant, wherein the cosurfactant used is an amphiphilic polymer with the structural formula



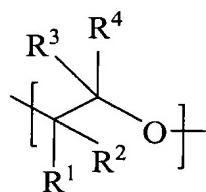
in which

A' is an unbranched or branched alkyl, cycloalkyl, aryl or aralkyl radical having 1 to 60 carbon atoms,

Y is S or O,

wherein A'-Y is a monofunctional unbranched or branched alcohol or thiol radical having 8 to 30 carbon atoms per molecule,

A is a structural unit with the formula



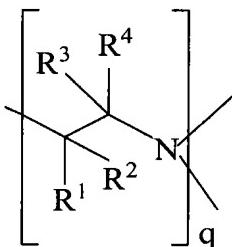
in which

U.S. application serial no. 10/557,600  
Reply to Official Action of October 27, 2008

$R^1$ ,  $R^2$ ,  $R^3$  and  $R^4$  independently of one another, are the substituents hydrogen, methyl, ethyl, propyl, octyl or phenyl, with the restriction that at least two and at most three of the substituents  $R^1$ ,  $R^2$ ,  $R^3$  and  $R^4$  are hydrogen,

$m$  is a number in the range from 10 to 300,

$X$  is a structural unit with the formula



in which the substituents

$R^1$ ,  $R^2$ ,  $R^3$  and  $R^4$  independently of one another, are the substituents hydrogen, methyl, ethyl, propyl, octyl or phenyl,

$q = 0$  or  $q = 1$ ,

$B$  is a monomeric subunit based on ethylene oxide or a mixture of ethylene oxide and propylene oxide,

$n$  is a number in the range from 20 to 500 and

$p = q + 1$ .

**Claim 27 (Previously Presented)** The microemulsion as claimed in claim 26, wherein  $A'-Y$  is a monofunctional unbranched or branched aliphatic alcohol or thiol radical having 8 to 30 carbon atoms per molecule.

**Claim 28 (Previously Presented)** The microemulsion as claimed in claim 26, wherein the structural unit  $A$  is formed from one or more monomers selected from the group

U.S. application serial no. 10/557,600  
Reply to Official Action of October 27, 2008

consisting of propene oxide, 1-butene oxide, 2,3-butene oxide, 2-methyl-1,2-propene oxide (isobutene oxide), 1-pentene oxide, 2,3 -pentene oxide, 2-methyl-1,2-butene oxide, 3-methyl-1,2-butene oxide, 2,3-hexene oxide, 3,4- hexene oxide, 2-methyl-1,2-pentene oxide, 2-ethyl-1,2-butene oxide, 3-methyl-1,2- pentene oxide, 4-methyl-1,2-pentene oxide, decene oxide, styrene oxide and a mixture of oxides of industrially available raffinate streams.

Claim 29 (Previously Presented): The microemulsion as claimed in claim 26, wherein the number m is a value in the range from 50 to 250.

Claim 30 (Previously Presented): The microemulsion as claimed in claim 26, wherein the number n is a value in the range between 50 and 300.

Claim 31 (Previously Presented): The microemulsion as claimed in claim 26, wherein B is an ethylene oxide/propylene oxide mixture containing 0 to 50% of propylene oxide.

Claim 32 (Previously Presented): A composition comprising the mixture as claimed in claim 18, wherein the composition is a detergent, an emulsifier, a foam regulator, a wetting agent for hard surfaces and a reaction medium for organic, inorganic, bioorganic or photochemical reactions.

Claim 33 (Previously Presented): A composition as claimed in Claim 32, wherein the composition is utilized in detergents, surfactant formulations for the cleaning of hard surfaces, humectants, cosmetic, pharmaceutical and crop protection formulations, paints, coatings, adhesives, leather degreasing compositions, formulations for the textile industry,

U.S. application serial no. 10/557,600  
Reply to Official Action of October 27, 2008

fiber processing, metal processing, food industry, water treatment, paper industry, fermentation, mineral processing, tire protection or in emulsion polymerizations.

Claim 34 (Previously Presented): A detergent, cleaner, wetting agent, coating, adhesive, leather degreasing composition, humectant or textile treatment composition or a pharmaceutical, crop protection or cosmetic formulation, sunscreen, skincare or hair styling composition, shower gel, shampoo, bath additive or scent oil, comprising a mixture as claimed in claim 18.

Claims 35 (Previously Presented): A detergent, cleaner, wetting agent, coating, adhesive, leather degreasing composition, humectant or textile treatment composition or a pharmaceutical, crop protection or cosmetic formulation, sunscreen, skincare or hair styling composition, shower gel, shampoo, bath additive or scent oil, comprising a microemulsion as claimed in claim 26.

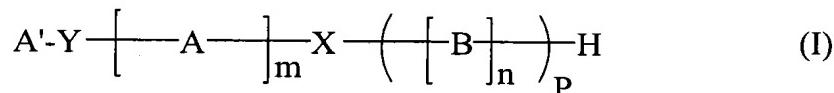
Claim 36 (Previously Presented): A composition comprising a microemulsion as claimed in claim 26, wherein the composition is a detergent, an emulsifier, a foam regulator, a wetting agent for hard surfaces and a reaction medium for organic, inorganic, bioorganic or photochemical reactions.

Claim 37 (Previously Presented): A composition as claimed in Claim 36, wherein the composition is utilized in detergents, surfactant formulations for the cleaning of hard surfaces, humectants, cosmetic, pharmaceutical and crop protection formulations, paints, coatings, adhesives, leather degreasing compositions, formulations for the textile industry,

U.S. application serial no. 10/557,600  
Reply to Official Action of October 27, 2008

fiber processing, metal processing, food industry, water treatment, paper industry, fermentation, mineral processing, tire protection or in emulsion polymerizations.

Claim 38 (New). A mixture comprising a surfactant and a cosurfactant, wherein the cosurfactant is an amphiphilic polymer with the structure formula



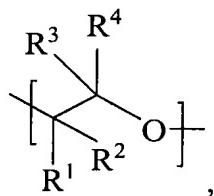
in which

$A'$  is an unbranched or branched alkyl, cycloalkyl, aryl or aralkyl radical having 1 to 60 carbon atoms,

$Y$  is S or O,

wherein  $A'-Y$  is a monofunctional unbranched or branched alcohol or thiol radical having 8 to 30 carbon atoms per molecule,

$A$  is a structural unit with the formula

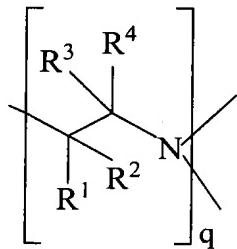


in which

$R^1$ ,  $R^2$ ,  $R^3$  and  $R^4$  independently of one another, are the substituents hydrogen, methyl, ethyl, n-propyl, isopropyl, octyl or phenyl, with the restriction that at most three of the substituents  $R^1$ ,  $R^2$ ,  $R^3$  and  $R^4$  are hydrogen and if three of the substituents  $R^1$ ,  $R^2$ ,  $R^3$  and  $R^4$  are hydrogen, the fourth substituent  $R^1$ ,  $R^2$ ,  $R^3$  and  $R^4$  is not methyl,

m is a number in the range from 10 to 300,

X is a structural unit with the formula



in which the substituents

R<sup>1</sup>, R<sup>2</sup>, R<sup>3</sup> and R<sup>4</sup> independently of one another, are each hydrogen, methyl, ethyl, n-propyl, isopropyl, octyl or phenyl,

q = 0,

B is a monomeric subunit based on ethylene oxide or a mixture of ethylene oxide and propylene oxide,

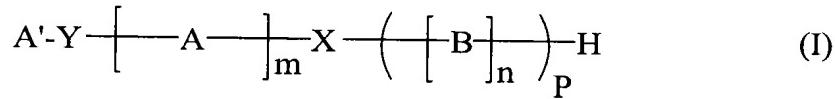
n is a number in the range from 20 to 500 and

p = q + 1.

Claim 39. (New) A method for stabilizing an emulsion comprising adding the mixture as claimed in claim 38 to an emulsion.

Claim 40. (New) The mixture as claimed in claim 38, which is a microemulsion.

Claim 41 (New) A mixture comprising a surfactant and a cosurfactant, wherein the cosurfactant is an amphiphilic polymer with the structure formula



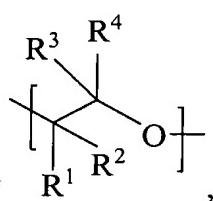
in which

A' is an unbranched or branched alkyl, cycloalkyl, aryl or aralkyl radical having 1 to 60 carbon atoms,

Y is S or O,

wherein A'-Y is a monofunctional unbranched or branched alcohol or thiol radical having 8 to 30 carbon atoms per molecule,

A is a structural unit with the formula

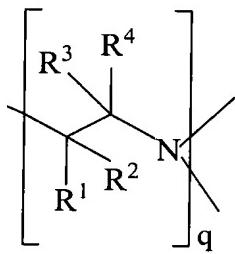


in which

R<sup>1</sup>, R<sup>2</sup>, R<sup>3</sup> and R<sup>4</sup> independently of one another, are the substituents hydrogen, methyl, ethyl, n-propyl, isopropyl, octyl or phenyl, with the restriction that at most three of the substituents R<sup>1</sup>, R<sup>2</sup>, R<sup>3</sup> and R<sup>4</sup> are hydrogen,

m is a number in the range from 50 to 250,

X is a structural unit with the formula



in which the substituents

U.S. application serial no. 10/557,600  
Reply to Official Action of October 27, 2008

$R^1, R^2, R^3$  and  $R^4$  independently of one another, are each hydrogen, methyl, ethyl, n-propyl, isopropyl, octyl or phenyl,

$q = 0$ ,

B is a monomeric subunit based on ethylene oxide or a mixture of ethylene oxide and propylene oxide,

n is a number in the range from 20 to 500 and

$p = q + 1$ .

Claim 42. (New) A method for stabilizing an emulsion comprising adding the mixture as claimed in claim 41 to an emulsion.

Claim 43 (New) The mixture as claimed in claim 41, which is a microemulsion.